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**Subject:** New England Congressional Delegation Capitol Hill Update | March 9, 2018

**New England Congressional Delegation  
Capitol Hill Update**

Office of Public Affairs  
Friday, March 9, 2018

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(BRICK Act, [HR 1917](#)); residential wood heaters ([HR 453](#), amended to [HR 1917](#)); coal refuse-burning power plants (SENSE Act, [HR 1119](#))

The House is considering three bills to postpone, delay or remove, respectively, air emissions requirements for 3 source categories: structural brick and clay manufacturers ([HR 1917](#)), residential wood heaters ([HR 453](#), amended to [HR 1917](#)), and coal refuse-burning power plants ([HR 1119](#)). On March 7, the House passed HR 1917 with HR 453 amended into it and HR 1119 passed on March 8. The bills have not advanced out of the Environment and Public Works Committee in the Senate.

Mar 11-14 - NLC Annual Congressional City Conference in DC

On Mar 11, Dave Ross, AA for Water, and Albert Kelly, Senior Advisor to the Administrator, and Chair of the Superfund Task Force, have been invited to address the Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee. On Mar 12, EPA will participate in the Federal Agency Round Robin session. EPA topics of interest: Stormwater Management/Green Infrastructure (including Integrated Planning); and, Brownfields Redevelopment.

Mar 27 - Repealing the Clean Power Plan Listening Sessions

The final listening session will take place in Gillette, WY.

**Hearings**

Mar 1 - The Administration's Framework for Rebuilding Infrastructure in America

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mar 1 - Examining Federal Managers' Role in Hiring

Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management.

Mar 7 - The Future of Transportation Fuels and Vehicles

House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mar 8 – Bill to amend CERCLA to provide an exemption from certain notice requirements and penalties for releases of hazardous substances from animal waste at farms

Senate Environment and Public Works. Note, this hearing has not been posted to the site.

Mar 12 - The Historic 2017 Hurricane Season: Impacts on the U.S. Virgin Islands

House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment.

Mar 13 - The Freedom of Information Act: Examining Administration's Progress on Reforms

Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

Mar 14 - Shining Light on the Federal Regulatory Process

House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Mar 14 - State of Play: Federal IT in 2018

House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's Subcommittee on Information Technology and Subcommittee on Government Operations.

Mar 14 - National Laboratories: World-Leading Innovation in Science

House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

## Appropriations

\$1.3 Trillion Omnibus Package Could See House Vote Next Week

House and Senate appropriators have made significant progress on fiscal 2018 spending bills but still face disagreements over policy language and some funding decisions; specific to bills that fall in Interior-Environment subcommittee, (e.g., EPA), reports are that the bill is in good shape in terms of funding, but disagreements remain over environmental riders.

HR 1892 - Continuing Resolution

On Feb 9, The President signed a sweeping \$320 billion budget agreement and stopgap funding through March 23, ending a brief government shutdown. The Senate approved the bill 71-28 and the House followed with a 240-186 vote.

## LEGISLATION

115<sup>th</sup> Congress | Jan 3, 2017, to Jan 3, 2019

### New England Delegation Legislation with Recent Activity

S.2472 – Nelson (FL)/Collins (ME), Coastal Coordination Act of 2018

To reauthorize the Coastal Management Act of 1972.

H.R.5143 – Amash (MI)/Moulton (MA), Searchable Legislation Act of 2018

To require all bills, resolutions, and other documents of Congress to be created, transmitted, and published in searchable electronic formats, and for other purposes. 15 additional co-sponsors.

H.R.5114 – Bonamici (OR)/McGovern (MA), Amend the Toxic Substances Control Act

To require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to take action to eliminate human exposure to asbestos, and for other purposes. Seven additional original co-sponsors.

H.R.723 - Kinzinger (IL)/ Welch (VT) Energy Savings Through Public-Private Partnerships Act of 2017

Six additional cosponsors. Feb 23, placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 435.

H.R.5015 — Blumenauer (OR)/McGovern (MA)/Tsongas (MA)/ Clark (MA)/Kuster (NH)/ DeLauro (CT)/Esty (CT)/Shea-Porter (NH) Saving America's Pollinators Act of 2018

36 co-sponsors.

H.R.5042 - Cartwright (PA)/ McGovern (MA)/Kuster (NH)/Welch (VT) Financing Energy Efficient Manufacturing Program at the DoE

To provide financial assistance to promote energy efficiency and onsite renewable technologies.

H.R.5069 - Welch (VT)/Kinzinger (IL), Establish Federal Smart Building Program

To implement smart building technology and demonstrate the costs and benefits of smart buildings, and for other purposes.

### New England Delegation Legislation with No New Activity

S.519 Gillibrand/Schumer (NY), requires SDWA MCLG and MCL for PFOA, PFOS, 1,4-dioxane, and perchlorate within two years

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to require the Administrator of the EPA to establish maximum contaminant levels for certain contaminants, and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation. Cosponsors: Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY] Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH].

S.675 Gillibrand (NY), Long Island Sound Funding

To amend and reauthorize certain provisions relating to Long Island Sound restoration and stewardship. Cosponsors: Sen. Schumer, Charles E. (D-NY) Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT], Sen. Murphy, Chris [D-CT].

S.756 Sullivan (AK)/Whitehouse (RI), Save Our Seas Act

To reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris. Jan 9, EPA meeting with Senators Sullivan and Whitehouse. 21 Co-sponsors including: Sen. Angus King (ME); Sen. Susan Collins (ME); Sen. Elizabeth Warren (MA); Sen/ Edward Markey (MA); Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (NH); Sen. Chis Murphy (CT).

S.914 Shaheen (NH)/Portman (OH), Enhances Federal Coordination and State Assistance for Emerging Contaminant Testing and Analysis

Also referred to as the "Safe Drinking Water Assistance Act of 2017." Cosponsors: Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH], Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH].

S.1769 Hassan (NH), Connected Government Act

Requires a federal agency that creates or updates a public website ensure that it is mobile friendly.

S.1979 — Murphy (CT) A bill to block the implementation of certain presidential actions that restrict individuals from certain countries from entering the United States

Introduced on Oct 18 with 30 co-sponsors. Two additional co-sponsors added Sen. Wyden [OR] & Sen. Udall [NM].

S. 2198 – Booker (NY)/Menendez (NJ)/Whitehouse (RI), Superfund Polluter Pays Restoration Act of 2017

To amend the IRS of 1986 to reinstate the financing for the Hazardous Substance Superfund.

S.2321 — Warren (MA), Transition Team Ethics Improvement Act

Amend Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to require the development of ethics plans for certain transition teams, and for other purposes. Cosponsors: Hassan (NH), Markey (MA).

S.2232 King (ME), Amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978

Provide for the integration of distributed energy resources, to modernize electricity grid infrastructure. On Dec 14, the bill was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S.2298 Whitehouse (RI), New England Coastal Protection Act

To prohibit oil and gas leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of New England. Co-sponsors: Markey (MA), Hassan (NH), Shaheen (NH), Reed (RI), King (ME), Warren (MA), Blumenthal (CT), Collins (ME), Murphy (CT).

S.2368 – Whitehouse (RI)/Schatz (HI), 1986 IRS Code

To amend the IRS code to provide for carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emission fees, reduce the rate of the corporate income tax, provide tax credits to workers, deliver additional benefits to retired and disabled Americans, and for other purposes.

S.2388 — Sanders (VT)/Harris (CA)/Markey (MA)/Gillibrand (NY), Nuclear Plant Decommissioning Act of 2018

To provide for consultation with state, tribal, and local governments, and approval of post-shutdown decommissioning activities reports by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

S.2396 — Harris (CA)/Sanders (VT)/Markey (MA)/Gillibrand (NY), Amend Atomic Energy Act of 1954

To prohibit waivers/exemptions from emergency preparedness and response and security regulations.

S.2422 — Warren (MA), Require a Study on the Health Impacts of Air Traffic Noise and Pollution  
Co-sponsored by Markey (MA).

H.R.1176 – Pingree (ME) Keep America's Waterfronts Working Act  
amends the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to establish a Working Waterfront Grant Program. Cosponsors: Rep. Wittman (VA), Rep. Keating (MA). Nov 2, subcommittee hearings held.

H.R. 1674 DeLauro (CT), LI Sound Restoration Reauthorization  
Reauthorizes the Management Conference of the LIS Study, the LIS Stewardship Act of 2006, the LIS Grants, and LIS Stewardship Grants through FY23. Cosponsors: Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1], Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3], Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2], Rep. Himes, James A. [D-CT-4], Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5], Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1], Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-2], Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16].

H.R. 1758 Rep. Katko (NY)/Rep. Esty (CT); The Brownfields Reauthorization Act of 2017  
Would reauthorize the Brownfields program at EPA. 7/27/17 was reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Cosponsors: Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24], Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4], Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]. On Nov 21, the House Report was amended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H. Rept. 115-419, Part I.

H.R.4209 – Larson (CT) Rebuild Nation's Infrastructure, Provide Consumer Rebate, Assist Coal Country, Reduce Harmful Pollution 16 Cosponsors including Rep. Capuano (D-MA). Nov 1, Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, Agriculture, Education and the Workforce, Natural Resources, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. On Nov 14, Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.

H.R.4774 Cicilline (RI) New England Coastal Protection Act  
Co-sponsored by: Capuano (MA), Clark (MA), DeLauro (CT), Esty (CT), Himes (CT), Keating (MA), Kennedy (MA), Kuster (NH), Langevin (RI), Larson (CT), Lynch (MA), McGovern (MA) Moulton (MA), Neal (MA), Pingree (ME), Shea-Porter (NH), Tsongas (MA), Welch (VT), Poliquin (ME), Courtney (CT).

H.R.4812 — Cicilline (RI) 21st Century Buy American Act  
To amend the Buy American Act to provide greater transparency regarding exceptions to domestic sourcing requirements, and for other purposes.

H.R.4926 – Blumenauer (OR)/Cicilline (RI), American Opportunity Carbon Fee Act of 2018  
To amend the IRS Code of 1986 to provide for carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emission fees, reduce the rate of the corporate income tax, provide tax credits to workers, deliver additional benefits to retired and disabled Americans, and for other purposes.

H.R.4976 — Welch (VT), Empowering State Forestry to Improve Forest Health Act of 2018  
Amends Cooperative Forestry Assist. Act of 1978 to direct Forest Service to establish a landscape-scale restoration program to provide financial and tech assistance for landscape-scale restoration projects on state and private forest lands that maintain or improve benefits from trees and forests on such lands.

H.R.4992 — Esty (CT), NOTICE Act of 2017  
To amend CAA to direct permitting authorities to notify municipalities within 30 miles of a source of certain permit applications and proposed permits, and for other purposes. *(this legislation is no doubt in response to the recently permitted Cricket Valley Energy Center in Dover Plains, NY, which is very close the CT state border – OEP's Donald Dahl provided some excellent to information Esty's office regarding the current notification requirements.)*

Regards,

Paul

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EPA Region 1

